

inclined wire screen. This may be carried out by means of an inclined trough or by a secondary head box in such a manner that the top phase fibers commingle slightly with the base fibers flowing through the primary head box. In this way, the base fibers have a chance to provide a base mat or phase, prior to the deposition of the second or top phase. As can be appreciated, the top phase is secured to the base phase by an interface formed by the intermingling of the particles within the aqueous suspension. Typically, webs produced in this manner have the first phase covering the entire area of the web surface in contact with the inclined wire screen while the opposing side of the web has a mixture of fibers with the top phase fibers greatly predominating. In this way there is not a clear line of demarcation between the two phases of the multi-phase sheet materials; yet there is a predominance of top phase fibrous material on the top surface or top phase of the multi-phase sheet. The center or interface boundary, of course, is composed of a mixture of the two different types of fibers. It should be appreciated that the invention also covers webs comprising three or more [layers] phases.

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